House International Relations Committee Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats Statement of Chairman Elton Gallegly

Markup of H. Res. 479 November 16, 2005

Today, the Subcommittee on Europe and Emerging Threats is marking up three resolutions, all of which we expect to be considered later today by the full committee.

The first item on the agenda is House Resolution 479, a resolution introduced by Congressman Lantos, the ranking member of the Committee, which recognizes the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution that began on October 23, 1956. It is estimated that 3,000 to 4,000 Hungarian freedom fighters and 700 Soviet troops were killed during the uprising and tens of thousands more were injured. The resolution also reaffirms the friendship between the people of and governments of the United States and Hungary.

I am a cosponsor and a strong supporter of House Resolution 479. In the interest of time, I will dispense with a longer statement. Let me just say that the bravery and sacrifice of the Hungarian people was an important event in the weakening and eventual downfall of the Soviet Union. I believe it is more than appropriate that the House recognizes this important historical event.

I urge the passage of House Resolution 479. I will now recognize Congressman Wexler for the purposes of making a statement.